



GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
November 13th, 2018
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.

Editors: Lee Funkhouser and Guy Gregory

NOVEMBER PROGRAM Tyler Balich—North Idaho Streams



"Tyler Balich grew up in Anchorage, Alaska where, naturally, he learned to hunt and fish.

He moved to north Idaho 23 years ago and now manages North 40 Fly Shop in Coeur d'Alene.

When not wandering the mountains for elk, or wading rivers for cutthroat trout, or floating down Montana's Clark Fork River, he spends time with his wife and children."

The November presentation will center on North Idaho Streams. You won't want to miss it.
See you at the meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Jim Athearn

I was happy to hear that some of our members were able to get out recently to chase a few steelhead. Despite the meager runs, I heard they were able to exercise a few nice fish. I spent the last two weeks on a moose hunting trip to British Columbia with **Leon Buckles** and **Doug Arndt**. Unfortunately, moose populations are about like salmon and steelhead this year and we were only able to find one with antlers. We brought the hide back for **Phil Beck** so, if anyone is interested in some moose hair, talk to him.

While some people don't appreciate hearing about a hunting event, I also came home with memories to share of a special lynx encounter. I had the opportunity to watch one 30 feet from my tree stand for about 45 minutes. It was stalking the squirrels that had been persistently chattering at me all afternoon. If you never get the chance to venture into the deep woods to see this elusive animal in action, picture a really big house cat with huge, furry feet, hunting mice. I was rooting for the lynx but, unfortunately, the squirrels survived to continue disturbing the otherwise quiet woods.

The greeting cards that we were able to offer to members at the last meeting were well received. Thanks to **Stan Miller** for the great art work and **Bob Schmitt** for making sure they were printed on time. There was enough interest in similar Christmas cards that we decided to have some of them printed. Again with Stan and Bob's fine efforts, they will be available at the November meeting.

Thanks to **Mark Pinch** for providing the entertaining happy hour tying demonstration last month. His fly auction brought in over \$200 for the club. I'm looking forward to seeing **Gordon Olson's** tying at the November meeting.

This was a sad month for the club as we lost two of our long-time members - **John Wagstaff** and **Cliff Slaton**. They will both be missed.

I want to close with a quote from one of our members, **Dave Gunderson**, who was part of our outing and discussion up at Rock Island Lake last summer. In a letter he sent me after-

Presidents message (continued)

ward he said "to propagate our sport we must teach, encourage, nurture and mentor new fly fishers. How better to do that than to take those interested in fly fishing and give them a hand up, take them under our collective wing and let them experience what we've experienced by being Inland Empire Fly Club members." Well said Dave.

Please don't forget to bring your donations to the Toys for Tots program to the next meeting. **Good luck fishing and be safe.**

Toys For Tots Meeting This Month
Bring your toys and cash donations for
Toys For Tots to this months meeting.
Let's do our part to make this a great
Christmas for those less fortunate.

JOHN WAGSTAFF

October 20, 1931-October 7, 2018



John Thomas Wagstaff died peacefully on October 7, 2018. He was a beloved son, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Johnny was born on October 20, 1931, in Salt Lake City, a triplet. His triplet brother and sister, Jimmy and Joan, survive him. The Wagstaff triplets earned some notoriety for being the first surviving triplets in Utah and were among the oldest surviving in the United States. His father William, mother Kate, older brother Bill and older sister Kathleen preceded him in death. For all of his professional life, Johnny was a dispensing optician and later became the owner of John's Optical Boutique.

Johnny was an avid outdoorsman. As a young boy, he spent his summers on his uncle Zan's ranch near Dillon, Montana fishing in the local creeks on their property. His days on the ranch were some of his fondest memories, and he returned on many occasions throughout his life. Johnny spent many weekends with his sons hunting pheasants and deer throughout Eastern Washington. Later in life, Johnny became an accomplished flyfisher and tyer. He was a long time member of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club. With a cadre of friends, he was happiest sharing adventures in the outdoors. Johnny's family wish to express their sincere gratitude to the care providers at Love in Home Senior Care, Royal Park Care Center and Horizon Hospice who provided comfort in the sunset of his life.

THE ANCHOR IS ART

By Mark Pinch

We saw it coming. All across the width of Upper Holter Reservoir, Montana, About a mile away. And coming fast. White caps. Wind. Two foot waves. Gotta go. Still time to make a run for cover. No problemo. Except the anchor was hard fast stuck. Like around a cable or something. Not just any anchor, one of those expensive lead, pyramid babies that you never want to have to shop for. With the nose of the boat pinned firmly, the first big wave crashed over the bow. Big water in the boat. **Scott Fink** unceremoniously cuts the anchor rope. Damn. Anchor gone. Next wave sends the bow skyward putting Scott on his back in the middle of the boat. But we're free.

Surprising how fast the stories fly. Everyone giving us the rash. Liar's Cub. Unbearable. Except for one guy. Reeling from sticker shock for a 15 pounder, **Lowell Tveit**, the industrial master, promptly instructs me to quit shopping. Lowell is going to make me one. Really? "Do you have a mold?" No. I'll make one. "Do you have the lead?" Maybe. I have a bunch of bird shot.

Hmmmmmm.....

One week later. What is this at our front door? Oh my. It looks like an anchor but.....so pretty. We've all seen a whole lot of anchors but this isn't just an anchor, this is art. The lines. The colors. It is so beautiful. Never want this to see any mud. Or rocks. Oh no.

Now the good news for you guys is that with the mold made, Lowell, can make more. Want it heavier? He'll just add more lead. Or less. Get your order in early. The lines are forming. Of course, this will be an expensive anchor. But your loveliest ever. Well worth the money. Just think of it as a classy necklace for your boat. You know, Anchor Art!

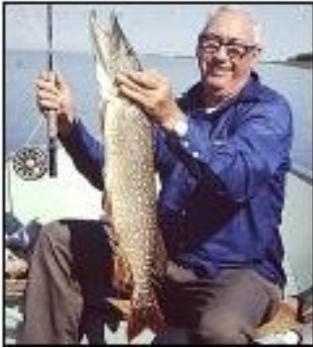
And we all thought that **Stan Miller** and **Gene Lorenson** were the only artists in the club. Both dandies. But there is one more. **Lowell Tveit**. And he is a dandy.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

CLIFF SLATON

October 20, 1919-October 11, 2018



Cliff Slaton of Spokane, passed away on Thursday, October 11, 2018 of natural causes in Spokane.

Cliff is survived by his son, Jim Slaton of Park City, UT, his daughter, Rhonda Fiskland of Spokane, his grandson, Jason Cooper of Boise, ID, his granddaughter, Shelby Fiskland of Yakima, WA, his sisters, Maude of Naples, FL, Ruth of Kettering, OH, Pauline of Springboro, OH, Mossie of Lexington, KY and Evelyn of Hamilton, OH and his brother Clyde, of Dayton, OH. Cliff was born in Pleasant View, KY on October 20, 1919 to Connie and Fannie (Davenport) Slaton. He attended the University of the Cumberland and was drafted into the US Army in 1942, where he subsequently attended flight training in the Air Corps. As a member of the Air Transport Command, he delivered a variety of aircraft and troops throughout the world during WWII.

After the war, he married Josephine O'Leyar of Great Falls, MT and was happily married for 40 years, when she passed away prematurely in 1986. He spent a 28 year career in the Air Force, flying a variety of aircraft, including the B-36 and B52. In 1969, he retired from the Air Force at Fairchild AFB and went to work as a realtor for William J. Carter Realty in Spokane for 14 years, where his reputation for a warm smile, friendly conversation and an honest deal served him very well. After living in NW Spokane on Janice Avenue for 42 years, he spent the remainder of his life at the Touchmark Retirement Community on the South Hill.

Throughout his life, he had a passion for both hunting and fishing. He was definitely in his happy place, whether Chukar hunting in the Columbia Basin, Elk hunting in Idaho, fly fishing for Cut-throat Trout on the St. Joe River or Salmon fishing in Alaska. He was an enthusiastic member of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club and spent much of his free time in retirement tying flies. He was also a member of the Spokane Masonic Lodge.

Cliff was predeceased by his parents, his brothers, Enoch and Dud and his son, Cliff (Stan). In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Cure Alzheimer's Fund, <https://curealz.org/>.

PRAM FOR SALE

By Rod Butler



I have a Spring Creek Pram, Model Hopper II, 10' that I'd like to find a new home. I purchased the pram in 2012 and it's everything it's promoted to be but find I need to help it find a new home with a fly fisherman. It has every accessory that Jim Wheeler is building into these crafts including; two seats (battery under the back seat with battery extensions), front and rear anchor mounts, splash web exterior and interior, 7' composite oars and more. When I bought the boat I also bought a custom trailer with a locking box for gear on the front.

If interested call Rod at 509-220-4606.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

IEFFC GREETING CARDS

Many of you have seen the new cards that are now available to purchase. **Stan Miller** did an outstanding job with the artwork and it allows all of us a way to send a card that is both appealing and a reflection of our strong interest in fishing.

Bob Schmitt was successful in getting Christmas cards printed. The design is similar, but a ribbon has been added to the trout and a salutation of "Merry Christmas" is included inside. The cards will be available for purchase at the November meeting.

Price is \$15.00 per box. (mixture of 5 cards of each type) or they can be purchased at a price of \$2.00 per card. Envelopes are included with the cards.



FLIES TO BE RAFFLED Tied by Gordy Olson

This month's raffle item is a set of flies tied by **Gordy Olson**. Gordy is an expert tyer and he has stated that every fly in this collection has caught fish. I think you would be wise to purchase a number of tickets in an effort to win this group of flies.

IEFFC QUOTE OF THE MONTH

One thing becomes clearer as one gets older and one's fishing experience increases, and that is the paramount importance of one's fishing companions.

John Ashley-Cooper

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

BAYLEY LAKE SPAWNING BEDS

By Jerry McBride



Our Work Crew

Many years ago the IEFEC in cooperation with the WDFW put in five weirs (low dams) and laid down gravel in the ponds formed by the weirs to create spawning beds in the short, channel-like stream that flows during spring run-off out of Potters Pond into Bayley Lake. The idea was to enable rainbow trout to come up in the channel in early spring and spawn with the females getting rid of their eggs enabling them to return to the lake and live a year or two longer than the normal three years. This of course, meant more large fish in Bayley that we could fish for. Normally, the water temperature in the channel gets too high for the fertilized eggs to hatch so there isn't much if any natural reproduction.

During the summer the grass along the channel grows almost chest-high and then droops into the channel tending to restrict the flow. Also, the gravel gets moved around and is sometimes covered with sand.



Just about every year a group of eight to ten members from the IEFEC has gone up in September or October to cut the grass, rake it out of the channel and restore the gravel beds. Most years the channel is dry as it was this year so it is fairly easy to do the work and usually takes about two hours.



Finished Product

Typically we pair up and drive from Spokane to meet in Chewelah at Zips for breakfast and then drive to Bayley to do the work. After we get done with the work we go and fish Bayley Lake which is pretty good fishing in the fall.

Bucket Brigades (above and below)



This year we tried a little different approach. We scheduled the clean-up for Saturday, September 22, 2018 and actively recruited members that had joined our club in 2016, 2017 and 2018. The idea was that newer members who have full-time jobs Monday through Friday might be able to come up and help on a Saturday. I recruited five "veterans" who had done the cleanup before, had fished Bayley and had boats. They were **Lee Funkhouser, Bob Schmitt, Scott Fink, Bruce Morgan and Jerry McBride**. The "veterans" were to be paired up with five newer members. The three newer members (all retired) recruited were **Ron Gill, Leo Harman and Bob Littlejohn**. Unfortunately Bob Littlejohn had a last min-

ute sewer system crisis and was not able to come over from the coast and help us. Lee Funkhouser recruited his son **Jeff Funkhouser** to come instead and being a young guy, he outworked all the rest of us. As he has done many times in the past, **Bill Papesh** volunteered and showed up with his killer weed whacker.

We had a great breakfast at Zips, got the work done in about two hours and then all of us except Bill Papesh went over to Bayley to go fishing. The conditions at Bayley were less than ideal with a very strong wind and a heavy algae bloom. Some of our members did fairly well and some not so well. I think all of us had a good time and felt we had done something helpful for future fishing at Bayley Lake.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

DID YOU KNOW?

By Jerry McBride



We have a celebrity in our midst. New member **Bob Littlejohn** is featured as a white bearded grandfatherly fly fisherman in a Wyoming tourist video that will come out in 2019. Bob co-stars with a nine year-old actress from California who plays his granddaughter.

Our newsletter editor and Bob's brother, Lee Funkhouser was contacted by a New York casting company looking for a "white bearded grandfatherly avid fly fisherman". Lee put the word out to club members and then emailed the casting company a photo of his brother. After a number of phone calls and photos sent, Bob did an on-line 35

minute video interview with his fly fishing equipment in the background. Two days later he was notified that he had been selected.

Two weeks after being selected he was sent airline and hotel reservations made for him to travel to and stay in Jackson, WY. When he arrived, a "go-fer" from the film crew even gave him some "walk-around" money.

The filming took four days with lots of repetition in a variety of beautiful settings. At one point the crew had Bob casting for 2 ½ hours straight in 102 degree heat. The director asked him to do some "circle" casts. Bob figured out the director meant roll casts. He is good at roll casts so he felt confident doing them for 15 minutes at the director's direction.

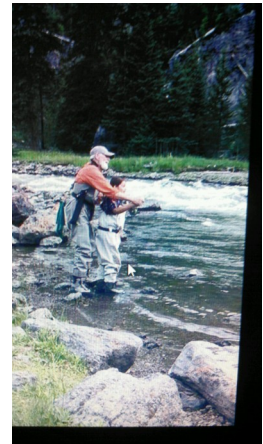
Major scenes include Bob and his "granddaughter" walking in a field with the sun behind them and the two of them sitting on a log by a campfire with an older Ford Bronco and an Airstream trailer in the background. The director wanted sparks coming up from the campfire so there was a person out of camera view stirring up the fire to create sparks.

After the video shooting Bob attended the cast party. Bob was quite impressed by the crew that came together to produce the video. Even though most of the crew had never met before they came together and worked like they had been a team for a long time.

Bob was well compensated and recently bought his brother Lee a new fly rod for helping to get this "gig".

After the shooting Bob has kept in contact with the girl who played his granddaughter and he recently sent her a complete fly fishing outfit.

The video will air on national television in March 2019.



IEFFC FISHING SHIRTS

We are going a different direction with the shirt program as there have been supply, sizing and quality problems with the old program. We have lined up someone who will sew the IEFFC patches on whatever item you have for a nominal fee. You can now purchase a shirt of your choosing and then bring it to a meeting. The shirt will be given to the seamstress and then brought to the next meeting with the patch sewn on. If you have a patch already the cost is \$2.50. We have patches available and for that service \$2.50 goes to purchase the patch and \$2.50 for the sewing for a total of \$5.00. This service will also include patches for Fly Fisherman of the Year and Past President with the patch provided free and only the sewing charge due. You can also have the patches sewn onto your vest or jacket if so desired, as it does not have to be on a shirt. We are hoping this will eliminate some of the problems with the previous program.

Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

FLY OF THE MONTH

Simple Scud

November 2018

Various Tyers

As we approach winter the number of fishing options always declines. One option that becomes increasingly attractive this time of year is Rocky Ford Creek. Although there are many ways to fish this amazing body of water, the tried and true method has always been scuds. This scud is a simple and easy to tie pattern. The supplies listed pertain to the fly featured in the video, but one can use different sizes of hook and different colors of dubbing. Fish will certainly be attracted to the olive, but you will also have success with grey, tan and pink. As you see with the tyer in this version, he has actually added some orange dubbing to the olive dubbing used in creating the body. Just as important is the size of the hook with many of the scuds seen in the creek being as large as size 14 and as small as size 20. Target some fish and experiment with size and color to find the most effective scud for the moment. To follow the tying of this fly on video use the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-csHDofGSZQ> or go to the website for this months featured video.

Hook: Dai-Riki #125 emerger hook. (size 16)

Thread: UTC 70 Olive.

Body: Smoky Olive Dubbing. (Orange added as optional)

Back: Thin skin from WAPSI..

Rib: Gold Ultra wire—small.

Antennae: Smoky Olive Dubbing.



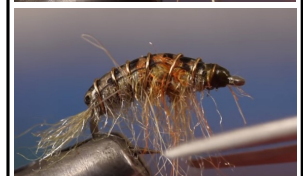
Start your thread about 1/3 of the way down the hook and wrap well down the bend, returning to about halfway down the hook. Now pull a thin wisp of dubbing and snip the end off. Secure it with the thread and wrap towards the bend with the antenna portion flowing out towards that end. Snip the fibers to form the antenna.

Now cut a small length of the wire and attach it at the bend of the hook. This will form the segmentation of the scud. Next cut a 1/8th inch length of thin skin to be used as the back of the scud. Secure one end of the thin skin to the shank near the eye of the hook end giving about 1/16th of an inch gap to the eye. Carefully wind the thread rearward keeping the thin skin centered on the hook shank. Take the wraps well down the bend of the hook.

To form the body and legs of the scud we use the dubbing again. Form a dubbing noodle about three inches in length. At this point you can add a small amount of orange dubbing to the noodle to liven up the fly. Starting at the tail wrap the dubbing to form a plump body that is tapered at both ends.

Now pull the thin skin forward while making sure it is kept in line with the hook shank. Take two or three wraps to secure it at the eye end of the hook and then a couple of jam wraps in front of it. Snip the thin skin as close as you can without cutting the thread wraps. With the thin skin secure begin making open spiral wraps with the wire noting that the more pressure you use the more well defined the segments will appear. At the head of the fly secure the wire and then helicopter the excess off. Whip finish and cut the thread.

Now put a drop of head cement on the end to make sure the thread is secure and does not unravel. Next we tease out the fibers to make the legs of the scud. Snip the fibers off so they are about a hook gap in length. Your fly is now ready to be used on those finicky Rocky Ford rainbows.



Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club—Spokane, Washington

COURT RULING TO KEEP RIVERS COOL

By Dale Kasler

It might be the most gruesome element of the drought conditions that have gripped the West in recent years: salmon being cooked to death by the thousands in rivers that have become overheated as water flows dwindle.

Now a federal judge in Seattle has directed the Environmental Protection Agency, in a ruling with implications for California and the Pacific Northwest, to find a way to keep river waters cool.

U.S. District Judge Ricardo Martinez, ruling in a case filed by environmental and fishermen's groups, told the agency last week it must develop a plan to keep water temperatures low in the Columbia River and its main tributary, the Snake, to protect multiple varieties of salmon and steelhead that are covered by the Endangered Species Act.

The ruling comes at a tense time. Environmentalists and state officials throughout the West are trying to grasp the implications of a memorandum President Donald Trump signed last week to streamline environmental regulations in order to increase water deliveries to farms and cities in the region.

At the same time, drought-like conditions persist: The federal government's U.S. Drought Monitor says 48 percent of California is in moderate to severe drought, along with 39 percent of Washington and 36 percent of Idaho. Just a month ago, the U.S. Commerce Department issued a disaster declaration for commercial salmon fishing on the West Coast, making communities that depend on those fisheries eligible for financial assistance.

Martinez's ruling last week was sparked by an ecological catastrophe in 2015, when an estimated 250,000 sockeye salmon died on the Columbia and Snake because the waters got too warm. In California, more than 95 percent of juvenile winter-run Chinook salmon perished in the Sacramento River in 2014 and 2015 when temperatures spiked during the worst of the drought. The Chinook are protected under the Endangered Species Act.

In the Northwest, the problems facing salmon and steelhead are being exacerbated by climate change. The massive fish kills of 2015 represent "a glimpse into the future as we get hotter and drier," said attorney Miles Johnson of Columbia

Riverkeeper, an environmental group that spearheaded the Seattle case.

"On the Columbia and the Snake we're in a crisis for water temperature; we're in danger of losing some of our salmon and steelhead stock," he said. "Every summer the Columbia and the Snake get too warm for the fish."

Last week's ruling doesn't have legal clout beyond the Pacific Northwest. But environmental lawyers in California said it could still influence crucial court cases and regulatory proceedings over water quality and water temperatures in the state. That includes a closely-watched effort by the State Water Resources Control Board to overhaul the management of the Sacramento River, home to the endangered Chinook salmon. The state's plan won't be finalized for several more months.

"It adds urgency to the state water board's (effort)," said Kate Poole, a lawyer for the Natural Resources Defense Council in San Francisco. "It's a similar and ongoing issue here."

Johnson said the Northwest's dams are mainly used to hold back water to generate hydroelectric power. But the reservoirs are generally so shallow that the water heats up quickly if it's stored too long. "The tension is between maximizing hydro power production and keeping the water cool enough for the fish," he said.

To keep temperatures in the Sacramento River below 56 degrees — the point at which juvenile salmon start to die — state officials during the drought held back substantial volumes of water behind Shasta Dam, whose reservoir is deep enough to maintain a pool of cold water. Then they released the cold water later in the year, when the fish returned to their spawning grounds just south of the dam. That meant curtailing water deliveries to Central Valley farmers during the height of the growing season, however.

The strategy pleased no one. Farmers fumed but the temperatures shot past 56 degrees anyway. Well more than 90 percent of the juveniles died in 2014 and 2015. For a species with a three-year spawning cycle, that left the salmon potentially headed toward extinction. Water conditions have improved since then, but so many juveniles were wiped out that the population hasn't been able to recover. Estimates by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife put the Chinook population in the upper Sacramento at just 1,155 in late 2017, marking a steady decline in recent years.

"They were really hammered two years in a row, 2014 and 2015," Poole said. "We've had really low populations (of adults) coming back to spawn. When we have a good water year, there's not that many fish in the system."

